



City of Wichita
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Special points of interest:

The Reserve Unit donated a total of 1,187 volunteer hours during the month of August.

Wichita Police Department

August 2006 Monthly Report

Mounted Unit gets new saddles

The WPD Mounted Patrol is getting two new saddles, thanks to a group of civic-minded businessmen. On September 12th, the Wichita Wagonmasters presented the Department with the saddles during the Wichita City Council meeting. Accepting the gift for the Department was Police Chief Norman Williams. The gift to the Department is valued at more than \$1,000. "We're very grateful for this generous gift and continued support of the Wagonmasters to the Police Department."



WPD Mounted Unit

Sgt. Brian Sigman, Off. Tricia Beck, Det. Kent Boal, Off. Brent Woodard, Off. Shawn Pichler, Off. Jason Cates, Sgt. Ed Brower.

Explosives disposal range to move to new location



The Wichita City Council approved the annexation of land for the Wichita Police Department's new explosives disposal range. The nearly 620 acres is located in southwestern Sedgwick County.

The police will use the range to detonate fireworks, old hand grenades and other explosive devices that turn up as police respond to calls.

Did You Know.....

During the month of August, WPD members received 91 Commendatory Performance Reports that were generated internally and 65 that were generated externally.

The Professional Standards Bureau opened 3 external complaints on members of the Department during August. There were 13 internal complaints filed against Department employees.

In August, the Awards Committee approved 30 awards. Of those, 20 went to Field Services, six to Investigations and four to Support Services.

The Property & Evidence Section will hold Auto Auctions on October 24th and 25th.

The 12th annual "Show N Shine" car event will be held at WSU parking lot from 12:00-4:00 pm on October 15th.

The Reserve Unit graduated a class of six new reserve officers on August 3rd. Reserve Police Officers are fully commissioned law enforcement officers who are responsible for patrol, traffic enforcement, and many other support functions.

The Air Section completed participation in Operation Safe Community on August 11th. A total of 126.5 flight hours were dedicated to the special initiative.



**Chief Williams,
Officer John Crane and
his wife Debbie Crane.**

On August 18th Officer John Crane retired after 20 years of service. Off. Crane was an SRO at Northwest High and he will continue his connection with the students as a "Safe and Drug Free Schools" specialist for the public school system.

Patrol West completed another STEP Grant project issuing 153 speeding citations, 23 turn violation citations and 39 seatbelt violations.

Officers in Beat 25 are closely monitoring residential and non-residential burglaries and are giving extra patrol to the areas affected by burglaries occurring to garages and sheds. Officers have spent time on foot talking to neighbors, handing out fliers and interviewing any leads they get.

On August 16th Officer Blurton gave a two-hour Power Point presentation on drug recognition to Ronald McDonald House employees.

On August 26th the Gang Unit co-hosted "Leadership Camp" with the Dream Center. The event was attended by 25 youths between the ages of 9 and 15. The WPD, Dream Center and former gang members spoke on several topics. Events included a Christian rap singer, a tour of JIAC, and two hours at All Star Sports. The Leadership Camp was successful and built relationships with at risk youth and the Dream Center.

Community Affairs Section is recruiting volunteers for the Accessible Parking Program to monitor handicapped parking spaces around the city. The process includes a background check and an interview with a board of police officials. Interested persons can contact Community Affairs at 268-4101.



On August 9th various armed robbery calls came out along Pawnee and Seneca area. A suspect description was given by the witnesses, and all seemed to be linked to the same suspect. Officer Amy was looking in the area of the last robbery call and saw the suspect running from behind the KFC restaurant. He was able to apprehend her in the west alley of Seneca. A witness, who saw her make entry into Winchell's Donuts and then run into Arby's, identified her at the scene.

WPD, Firefighters, Local Businesses Help Autistic Child & Family

It's not a complete home makeover. But, it's close. Wichita Police Officers, Wichita Firefighters from Station Eight, Home Depot, Star Lumber, Carpet One Commercial, Papa John's Pizza, Mr. Goodcents, Homeland Grocery and volunteers from the community spent their day on September 9th helping an autistic child and his family who live in southwest Wichita.



"The project began when Officers Jesica Cummings and Mike Miner tried to solve the problem of an autistic child who repeatedly left his home when his parents were sleeping," said WPD Patrol West Sergeant Diane Varnell.

"They tried everything to keep him in the house," Varnell said. "Officer's Cummings and Miner went to Home Depot and talked with them about getting sensors put on the windows and doors to alert the parents when the child was trying to leave the home. Home Depot, which adopts a family about once a year, adopted Andrew Kliever and his family who live at 211 S. Florence."



Volunteers repair windows at the Kliever residence.



Firefighters from Station 8 volunteer

Sgt. Varnell said the two officers and other volunteers not only installed sensors to alert the family if the child should try to leave the house, they also repaired windows and the home's flooring. "The tile floor was so bad in some parts of the house you could see the wood below," said Sgt. Varnell.

Home Depot provided all the materials for the project while Papa John's Pizza and Mr. Goodcents helped feed the volunteers. The labor was provided by Wichita Police Officers, Firefighters and members of the community who wanted to help.

Public Safety Expo

On August 12th the Towne West Mall held the 11th annual Public Safety Expo. Over 25,000 citizens attended the expo. Events consisted of the Child ID Program, EOD, the Clan Lab, Mounted Unit, K-9 and a race car.



Children are fingerprinted at the Child ID Program booth.



Visitors talk to officers at the Clandestine Lab display.



One of the Mounted Unit horses takes a break.



The 'Beat the Heat' race car is on display.

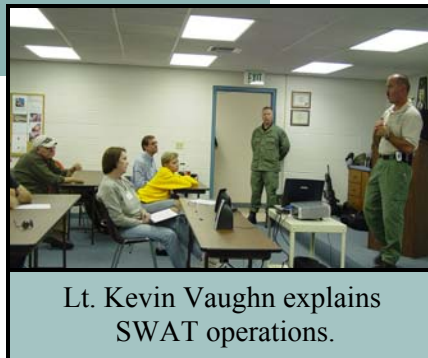
Citizen Police Academy

Members Learn Department's

Ins and Outs

It happens twice a year. Citizens from around Sedgwick County converge on the Sedgwick County Law Enforcement Training Center to attend the Citizen Police Academy, a 13-week program designed to provide a working knowledge and background of the Wichita Police Department and Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office.

The program, which fosters a closer relationship between the two agencies and the



Lt. Kevin Vaughn explains SWAT operations.

community, also provides an avenue for community involvement and provides first hand experience of policing.

The academy is an opportunity for citizens to learn more about their local law enforcement, ask questions, and gain a more thorough understanding of the inner workings of the Wichita Police Department and the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office.

The Academy is a means for participants and police personnel to share information and ideas about the police profession. It also provides for improved community/police relationships, enhanced cooperation, and reduced stereotyping.

Some of the topics covered include investigations, drug issues, and tours of the inter-department firing range, emergency vehicle operations driving simulator, and crime lab.

The academy, which is free and open to the public, accepts applications through the Training Center.

Police helicopter makes emergency landing

Members of the Air Section's night crew were forced to make an emergency landing in a field located at Wilbur Middle School, 340 N. Tyler, after the helicopter developed engine trouble while on routine patrol. The pilot and an observer were unnerved by the sudden landing but were not hurt and the helicopter received no damage. The helicopter was transported by ground from the school to the unit's base of operations at Colonel James Jabara Airport.



Domestic Violence case solved long distance

The long arm of the law in Wichita now stretches to Iraq. On July 20th a former boyfriend and father of one of her children assaulted a woman who lives in the 2300 block of East MacArthur. The woman sustained serious injuries to her face as a result of the attack. The woman did not report the incident to police, but did tell her husband via webcam, a U.S. Army Sergeant currently serving in Iraq. Her husband told a fellow soldier, Wichita Police Officer and U.S. Army Sergeant Terence James, about the incident. Officer James, who is also stationed in Iraq, witnessed the woman's injuries via the webcam. He immediately contacted Lt. Eric Bastian at Patrol South and stayed on the webcam with the woman until officers arrived on the scene. The woman was interviewed and taken to a hospital where she was treated for a broken nose.

Because Officer James showed devotion to duty by acting quickly and decisively, he will receive the Wichita Police Department's Bronze Wreath of Merit upon his return from military service. In his nomination for the award, Officer James was credited with not letting "the fact that he was in the middle of a war zone, in another country and a nine hour time difference prohibit him from taking the necessary action to report and help the victim of a domestic violence incident back in the city that he has taken an oath to serve and protect".

Officer James will be presented with his award upon his return to active duty with the Wichita Police Department.



Officer Terence James



Kick-off in Delano District

On August 1st the 23rd annual National Night Out event kicked off in the 600 block of West Douglas. Mayor Carlos Mayans read a proclamation, the Police Department's Mounted Unit and K-9 Unit were at the event, and free hamburgers and hot dogs were served.

"It's a real getting-to-know-you opportunity", said Officer Joe Seitz of the Crime Prevention Unit. "It's a great night to recognize crime prevention issues." Over 150 registered parties were held throughout the city.



Officers Amie Fiegel, Richard Stopka and Joe Seitz.

44 Beat Study presented at Community Meetings

A nine-month-long study of issues in a northeast Wichita neighborhood was unveiled in September at two community meetings, according to Captain Felecia Norris, commander of the WPD Patrol North Bureau.

The "44 Beat Community Survey: Revitalization of a Neighborhood", is a 21-page study that looks at a variety of issues that affect the quality of life in the area of northeast Wichita roughly bounded by 13th Street on the South, 21st Street on the North, Hydraulic on the west and by Hillside on the east. The results of the survey were presented to members of the public at two community meetings.

"The survey was conducted by going door-to-door throughout the neighborhoods", said Norris. "It represents our commitment to working with our community and our partners in the project."

This survey is the result of a partnership between WPD, Wichita State University, The Weed and Seed Steering committee, Wichita Independent Neighborhood Association (WIN), Power Community Development Coalition, Power Community Development Corporation, Power Neighborhood Association, the City of Wichita, Family Services Institute, students from USD 259, Northeast Central Neighborhood Association, and members of the Wichita Police Department.

The area surveyed includes more than 4,700 residents who live in nearly 2,000 residences.

A total of 439 residents completed the 13 questions on the survey that asked about a variety of topics. Among those questions asked were "What are your top three neighborhood concerns?", and "What three things could police do to make your neighborhood safer?"

Top 10 resident concerns:

1. Drug activity
2. Unoccupied dwellings
3. Gangs
4. Health code violations
5. Animal control issues
6. Crime (general)
7. Traffic violations
8. Disorderly conduct
9. Foot traffic
10. Burglaries



Captain Felecia Norris and Officer Courtney Pierce give a media briefing on the 44 Beat study.

The survey identified drugs, abandoned houses and vehicles, and gangs as the top three concerns of residents living in the area. Other concerns included health and environmental code violations, animal control issues and overall crime in the area.

The survey was presented to the public at two meetings. The first was held at the Patrol North Substation, on Monday, September 18th. The second was at the Atwater Community Center on Saturday, September 23rd.

A copy of the survey is on the Wichita Police Department Website at <http://www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Police/>

Curb-to-Curb Clean up in 44 Beat

The Atwater Neighborhood City Hall's Good Neighbor Program sponsored a "Neighborhood Curb-to-Curb Clean up" for a portion of the 44 beat area on Saturday, August 12th. CP Officer Courtney Pierce, Sgt. Chuck Newman, along with residents, volunteers, City staff, and Waste Management employees filled 3 ½ garbage trucks with trash and loaded over 100 tires.